

Yuchi = Euchee

Yuchi is spoken fluently by about a dozen elders near Sapulpa, Hectorsville, and Bristow in northeastern Oklahoma (Mary Linn p.c. 1999). The Yuchi came to Oklahoma from Georgia during the Removal of 1836-40, when southeastern groups were forced west (Haas 1979: 310). They accompanied the Creeks, with whom they had been affiliated since the 18th century. The Yuchi language is not closely related to any other, but the possibility of a distant genetic relationship to the Siouan family was suggested by Sapir (1921, 1929) and taken up again in Haas 1951, 1964a, Elmendorf 1964, Rudes 1974, and Crawford 1979, which also contains an overview of work on the language. A remote relationship to Siouan appears probable.

Several wordlists were collected during the 19th century. Material recorded by Daniel Ware and by John Ridge around 1820 appears in Gallatin (1836: 307-67). A short note on the Yuchi and their language is in Gatschet 1885. Speck collected vocabulary and texts during ethnographic fieldwork between 1904 and 1908. Yuchi terms appear in his ethnography (1909) and songs are in 1911. Additional material is in the National Anthropology Archive. The first extensive published documentation of the language is a set of texts in Wagner 1931 and a grammatical sketch in Wagner 1933. Further work on phonology appears in Wolff 1948, Crawford 1973, and Ballard 1975. Morphology, especially pronominal prefixes, are discussed in Wolff 1948 and Ballard 1978. Noun classification is further described in Linn 1997 and positionals in Linn 1996. Ballard (1980) notes that morphemes in the language are so easily segmented that they are nearly free forms rather than affixes. Wolff also published a text in 1951. Working from data in Wagner, Benveniste discussed negation (1950).

Mithun, Marianne. 1999. *The Languages of Native North America*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.